12/24/1998



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

 U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.
 FIRST NAMED APPLICANT
 ATTY. DOCKET NO.

 09/868,950
 Rainer Goldau
 2565/86

 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
 PCT/EP99/10338

 26646
 I.A. FILING DATE
 PRIORITY DATE

26646 KENYON & KENYON ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004

CONFIRMATION NO. 9979
371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER
OC0000000007170361

12/23/1999

Date Mailed: 12/10/2001

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

11/05/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

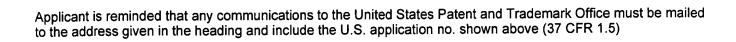
11/05/2001

DATE OF RECEIPT OF ALL 35 U.S.C.
REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING**ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C.
371 REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- U.S. Basic National Fee
- Copy of IPE Report
- · Copy of references cited in ISR
- Copy of the International Application
- Copy of the International Search Report
- English Translation of the IA
- · Oath or Declaration
- Request for Immediate Examination



JOHN L ANDERSON Telephone: (703) 308-9116

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY